

This legacy faces great challenges today, and I am proud to stand here on the floor of the United States Congress, vigilant in the defense of our defining principles and West Virginia priorities.

□ 1215

IT IS ALL IN THE NAME—THE NAME IS TERRORIST

The SPEAKER pro tempore. The Speaker recognizes the gentleman from Texas (Mr. POE) for 5 minutes.

Mr. POE of Texas. Mr. Speaker, ISIS has beheaded yet another person.

Just this morning we also learned that the Taliban assassins murdered nine people in Afghanistan.

A few months ago, the Taliban did a most vicious act of jihad. They attacked a school and murdered 150 children and their teachers in Pakistan.

Last week, we learned that one of the Taliban Five, who was unfortunately swapped by the President in exchange for deserter Bowe Bergdahl, has recently called his buddies in the jihadist Taliban.

Now, isn't that lovely?

But the Taliban are not terrorists, so sayeth the White House.

According to the White House Press Secretary:

They do carry out tactics that are akin to terrorism. They do pursue terror attacks in an effort to try to advance their agenda.

Well then, why not call them "terrorists"? Why is the White House so timid and so intimidated by refusing to call the Taliban "terrorists"?

The National Review reports that the Al Jazeera news service has banned the terms "Islamist," "jihad," and "terrorists" from their reporting. Is the White House Press Secretary getting his politically correct language and censored statements from Al Jazeera? Who knows.

Even Secretary Kerry refuses to define the foreign terrorist group ISIS as the Islamic State of Iraq and Syria. Mr. Speaker, at a House Foreign Affairs Committee hearing on September 18, entitled, "The ISIS Threat: Weighing the Obama Administration's Response," I asked Secretary Kerry this question:

Who are we at war with? I call them "ISIS." Who would you call them?

Secretary Kerry: Well, I would call them the "enemy of Islam" because that is what I think they are, and they certainly don't represent a state even though they try to claim to do so.

So, officially, Mr. Kerry, we should refer to them as the "enemy of Islam"?

Secretary Kerry: Well, I do.

Mr. Speaker, this administration also refuses to say that we are at war with radical Islam. There is so much sensitivity in the White House over its statements that one is puzzled to wonder: Why are they sensitive about calling terrorists "terrorists"?

Radical Islam is a cancer that is spreading throughout the world. Thousands are joining in the jihad, which preaches hate and murder in the name

of religion. Even other world leaders have publicly recognized this and have called our enemy "terrorists"—but not the United States. The leader of the free world dances around the topic instead of telling it like it is.

Why does the administration refuse to define our enemy? We are at war with radical Islam. We are at war with the Taliban. We are at war with ISIS, and we are at war with terrorism and terrorists. And, Mr. Speaker, they are at war with us.

Is the White House worried about hurting the feelings of the radical terrorists, who make it their mission to kill us, and so refuses to call them "terrorists"? We need to call them what they are—terrorists who kill in the name of radical Islam.

Political correctness and political jargon will not win this war. Americans and our military must have a clearly defined enemy, not some nebulous, undefined named enemy that the White House advocates.

The threat of Islamic extremism has never been greater. Their mission is clear. They are ruthless in pursuing it and will kill anybody who doesn't agree with them regardless of their religion. These killers are at war with America and humanity. We cannot defeat this enemy without first knowing who they are and then defining them. Mr. Speaker, they are terrorists. And that is just the way it is.

REPORT: AL JAZEERA'S BANNED 'ISLAMIST,' 'JIHAD,' 'TERRORIST' FROM AIRWAVES

Al Jazeera's New York and Washington, D.C. journalists have reportedly received strict orders from Qatari management: please do not use the words "terrorist," "militant," "Islamist," "jihad" and "extremist" in your reporting.

After a January 27 Islamist terrorist attack in Libya, an internal email obtained by National Review showed that Al Jazeera English executive Carlos van Meek sent out an email demanding that his employees refrain from using the banned terms. "All: We manage our words carefully around here," van Meek reportedly wrote. "So I'd like to bring to your attention some key words that have a tendency of tripping us up."

Van Meek explained, "One person's terrorist is another person's freedom fighter," in writing why his employees must stop using the aforementioned words. "Avoid characterizing people," he reportedly added.

Regarding the term Islamist: "Do not use," van Meek wrote in bold. "We will continue to describe groups and individuals, by talking about their previous actions and current aims to give viewers the context they require, rather than use a simplistic label."

"Strictly speaking, jihad means an inner spiritual struggle, not a holy war," van Meek said in explaining why the Arabic term will no longer be allowed in Al Jazeera's reporting. He continued, "It is not by tradition a negative term. It also means the struggle to defend Islam against things challenging it."

He added: "We do not use words such as militants, radicals, insurgents. We will stick with fighters."

National Review reports that van Meek was previously described as the man tasked with "establishing Al Jazeera in America."

Breitbart News has reported on Al Jazeera's radical past, including its current support for Egypt's Muslim Brotherhood terrorist group.

After September 11, 2001, the network's headquarters in Doha reportedly put on display multiple pictures in its studio honoring the deceased Al Qaeda terrorist Osama bin Laden.

In 2013, dozens of staff resigned in protest of Al Jazeera's "biased coverage" in favor of the Muslim Brotherhood jihadist organization.

[From HFAC Hearing on Sept. 18 entitled, "The ISIS Threat: Weighing the Obama Administration's Response"]

Mr. POE. You just go ahead and answer the question:

Who are we at war with? I call them ISIS. Who would you call these?

Secretary KERRY. Well, I call them the enemy of Islam, because that is what, I think, they are. And they certainly don't represent a state, even though they try to claim to.

Mr. POE. So officially we should refer to them as the enemy of Islam.

Secretary KERRY. Well, I do.

Mr. POE. Okay.

Secretary KERRY. I don't know if there is an official whatever.

Mr. POE. Well, why don't we tell the American people—

Secretary KERRY. I hope you join me in doing that, because that is what I think they are; and I don't think they deserve to have a reference in their name that gives them legitimacy.

Mr. POE. Are they the enemy of the United States?

Secretary KERRY. Beg your pardon?

Mr. POE. Are they the enemy of the United States?

Secretary KERRY. They are an enemy of humanity.

Mr. POE. So they are an enemy of the U.S., too?

Secretary KERRY. Among others.

Mr. POE. Okay.

Secretary KERRY. Among many others—

Mr. POE. Well, I am just looking specifically at the national security interest of the United States.

Secretary KERRY. Definitely, it is in the national security interest of our country, with Americans over there with passports, learning how to fight and taking part in this—

Mr. POE. And I agree with you, they shouldn't come back unless they are in handcuffs. I agree with that.

Secretary KERRY. For all those reasons, yes.

RECESS

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Pursuant to clause 12(a) of rule I, the Speaker declares the House in recess until 2 p.m. today.

Accordingly (at 12 o'clock and 19 minutes p.m.), the House stood in recess.

□ 1400

AFTER RECESS

The recess having expired, the House was called to order by the Speaker pro tempore (Mr. EMMER) at 2 p.m.

PRAYER

The Chaplain, the Reverend Patrick J. Conroy, offered the following prayer:

Eternal God, through whom we see what we could be and what we can become, thank You for giving us another day.